

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

JIM MATTOX ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 17, 1990

Mr. Don Doak Chief Deputy/Director of Jail Administration Johnson County Sheriff's Office 1800 Ridgmar Cleburne, Texas 76031

OR90-577

Dear Mr. Doak:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, article 6252-17a, V.T.C.S. Your request was assigned ID# 10985; your most recent correspondence has been assigned ID# 11131.

You state that the Johnson County Sheriff Office has received requests for photographs of deceased victims of crime and of "inmates and/or other information on these inmates while the case is still pending." This office assumes that you have received written requests for the information in question, see V.T.C.S. art. 6252-17a, § 7(a), and that the requested information actually exists in tangible form. See Attorney General Opinion JM-48 (1983) (governmental bodies not required to comply with a standing request for information to be collected or prepared in the future).

You have raised none of the act's exceptions to required public disclosure with regard to the requested information. A previous determination of this office, Open Records Decision No. 325 (1982), a copy of which is enclosed, resolves your request. The requested information is presumed to be public; for this reason, the information must be released.

Because a prior published open records decision resolves your request, we are resolving this matter with this informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. We have enclosed a copy of the Attorney General's Handbook on the Texas Open Records Act to assist

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you with future requests for information. If you have questions about this ruling, please refer to OR90-577.

Yours very truly,

Susan Garrison

Assistant Attorney General

Opinion Committee

SG/RWP/le

Enclosures: Open Records Decision No. 325

Open Records Handbook

Ref.: ID# 11131

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